

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

450 South State  
P.O. Box 140241  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-0241  
801-578-3800

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### NEWS RELEASE



**Christine M. Durham**  
Chief Justice, Utah Supreme Court

**Daniel J. Becker**  
State Court Administrator

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*Utah's courts are committed to open, fair, and independent justice.*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**April 20, 2006**

**Contact: Nancy Volmer**  
**(801) 578-3994**  
**Cell: (801) 712-4545**

### UTAH STATE JUVENILE COURTS ASSIST CRIME VICTIMS

*Crime Victims Rights Week is April 23 through 29, 2006*

When a crime is committed, defendants are read their rights and provided legal services, if they can't afford representation. But what about the rights of victims of a crime? Crime victims are often unaware of their rights and the resources available to assist them in working through the issues and emotions that accompany the violation.

To increase public awareness of victims' rights, the Office for Victims of Crime has designated April 23 through 30, 2006, as Crime Victims Rights Week. The theme of the week, "Victims' Rights: Strength in Unity," pays tribute to crime victims and survivors, as well as victim service providers.

Locally, the Utah State Juvenile Courts offers a range of programs—such as distributing victim impact statements and collecting restitution—to assist crime victims. In addition, individual victim coordinators or victim liaisons are located in each of the state Juvenile Courts' eight judicial districts to assist crime victims.

"The state's Juvenile Courts are aware of and sensitive to the rights and needs of crime victims," said Bart MacKay, state Juvenile Court Victims' Committee representative. "We strive to provide a support system to help victims survive their loss."

For more information on crime victim's rights in juvenile cases, go to  
[www.utcourts.gov/courts/juv/victim](http://www.utcourts.gov/courts/juv/victim).

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